

Appl. No. : 10/612,780
Amendment
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REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the remarks which follow are responsive to the non-final Office Action dated February 12, 2007. In that Office Action, claims 42, 45-48 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,843,800, claims 53-69 were allowed and claims 43 and 44 were merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent format to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Without indicating or implying agreement with the stated grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), Applicant has hereby amended the limitation of allowed claim 43 into independent claim 42. Also, claim 42 has been cancelled and claim 43 has been amended to depend from claim 42 rather than cancelled claim 43. By this amendment, claims 42, 44-48 and 52 have been placed in condition for allowance along with previously allowed claims 53-69.

This amendment is being entered solely for the purpose of expediting issuance of a patent on this application. Applicant does not agree that any claims presented during prosecution of this application are anticipated or unpatentable over the prior art. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of all claims that were rejected in this application, or other claims, by way of one or more continuation or divisional applications.

By the forgoing amendment, applicant has additionally inserted a "Related Applications" section on page 1 of the specification, thereby bring the specification into technical conformity with the priority claim that was duly made in the transmittal papers that accompanied filing of this continuation application and as reflected in the official filing receipt.

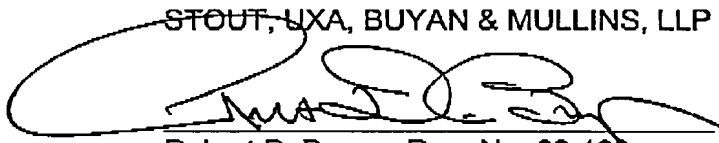
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Accordingly, the application is now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a notice of allowance with respect to claims 42, 44-48 and 53-69 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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